

ANTIQUE CARPETS OF CHINA

By Lu Hongqi

中國 古 毯

陆红旗 著

知識出版社

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塔尔寺经堂



Foreword

China has a long history and a splendid culture. During this long period of time, Chinese people created countless cultural art treasures, of which the antique carpet has attracted world attention due to its special artistic charm.

The patterns of Chinese antique carpets are subtle and beautiful; the colors are elegant and harmonious; the knitting craft is unique and fine; the regional culture shown on the carpet is distinct and rich. With accumulation of time and the maturation of culture, these antique carpets have become cultural arts instead of floor coverings. The artistic brilliancy shining out from one wonderful antique carpet can bring infinite happiness and enjoyment to the viewer's spirit. With the passage of time, no early carpets now remain. Most of existing carpets were produced in the Ming and Qing dynasties and are stored in the imperial palace, temples, museums and private collectors. There are fewer antique carpets stored in the folk society.

Nearly one hundred antique carpet pictures in the plates of this book are selected from the photographs of antique carpet pictures I took during more than ten years. These antique carpets represent the artistic styles and techniques of Chinese carpets of approximately two hundred years. This book also describes and explains the evolution of the carpet and meanings of the patterns from historical and cultural points of view to evoke past memories of antique carpets. Today, when we review these antique carpets, we can also find they are still beautiful and able to affect a viewer's emotions.

Lu Hongqi

前 言

中国有着悠久的历史 and 灿烂的文化,在漫长的历史进程中,中国人创造出了无数的文化艺术珍品,其中,古地毯以其特有的艺术魅力受到了世人的瞩目。

中国古地毯花纹婉转优美、色彩典雅协调。编织工艺独特精细,地毯中所展现的地域文化鲜明而且丰富。经过时间的积累和文化的熏陶,这些古地毯早已超越了一般铺地之物而升华成为文化艺术品,一块完美的古地毯所放射出的艺术光芒会给人的精神带来无尽的喜悦和享受。然而随着时间的流逝,早期的地毯已荡然无存。存世的多为明清地毯,大都藏于皇宫、寺院、博物馆和私人收藏家手中,散落于民间的古地毯已经为数不多。

本书图版中近百幅古地毯图片是从我十多年间陆续收集拍摄的古毯图片中精选出的,这些古毯基本上反映了近二百年左右中国地毯的艺术风格和技术水平。本书还从历史和文化的角度对地毯的演变及其图案的寓意进行了阐述和解析,以唤起人们对遗忘已久的古地毯的记忆。今天,当我们重新审视这些古地毯时却发现它们依然是那么熠熠生辉,令人激动不已。

陆红旗



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THE ORIGIN AND SPREAD OF THE CARPETS

地毯之源流



The Origin of Carpets

Chinese people had the custom of sitting on the ground with a mat in ancient times. The mat (Xi) word was invented in Xizhou Dynasty in China (1100 - 771 B.C.). The mat (Xi) is a kind of thing for paving knitted with plant fibres or animal furs. The ancient book, *Shuowen* said: "Xi (mat) is a kind of mat to fall back on." The ancient book, *Shiming* said: "Xi (mat) can be rolled and unfolded." The book, *Xishang Futan* also said: "In ancient times, the uses of the mat, carpet, felt and mattress are same, but the names are different." Xi (mat) is divided into warm mat and cool mat, The people of Han Dynasty divided the warm mat into carpet and felt according to the different crafts of the production of the warm mat. The ancient book also recorded this. The felt was made through pressing the cattle furs and wool into pieces after wetting and heating them. The carpet was a kind of fabric with various patterns made from wool, hemp, silk and cotton through spinning the yarn, dyeing and knitting. But, when did the carpet knitting technology begin? Where did the carpet knitting technology come from?

If we want to know the origin of the carpet, the origin of silk must be traced because the silk is the headstream of the textile of China and it is also the primogenitor of the carpet.

The silk originated on Chinese soil, but the date of origin has not been determined up to today. It is said that the silkworm was spike silk originated from Fu Xi. It is also said the silk and textile technology originated from Yellow Emperor's wife, Lei Zu. *Zhouli* and *Shiji* recorded that the silk and textile technology had 6000 years history.

From 1975 to 1978, the archeologist found a whole array of tools and handless cup shape utensils made of teeth used for textile in neolithic site of Hemudu Village of Yuyao of Zhejiang

province (4000 B.C.). Yin Yang veins like wriggling silkworm were carved on the utensils with knitted flower pattern.

A half silkworm cocoon was dig up in Yangshao Cultural site (5000 - 3000 B.C.) of Xiyin Village of Xia County of Shanxi Province in 1927.

In 1958, a lot of silk and hemp textiles were founded in Shanyang site (2700 B.C.) of Wuxingqian of Zhejiang province, wherein there were plain silk fabric relics, silk belt knitted with silks and silk threads twisted with silks. At the same time, there were also unearthed spinning wheels made from stone and pottery.

The time proved by archeology and the time recorded by ancient book proves that the silk and textile technology of China was invented 6000 years ago in wide drainage areas of Changjiang and Yellow rivers. In this time, many tribes assembled in the drainage areas of two rivers. The tribes located in Changjiang drainage area established Jiuli Alliance. The chief of tribes, Chiyou led Jiuli Alliance to invade Zhongyuan area (In the central area of China) and fight with Yellow Emperor tribe and Yan Emperor tribe located in Huanghe area for several ten times. No party could win. At last, Yellow Emperor and Yan Emperor tribes fought with Chiyou in Zhuolu (located in Hebei province) and Jiuli Alliance was defeated to escape in disorder. Some of them withdrew to Southern Jiangnan area to establish Sanmiao Tribes Alliance. In Yao times (2333-2234 B.C.), Sanmiao Tribes Alliance rebelled against Yao Emperor. Yao Emperor dispatched the army to punish and fight with them in Danshui (Danjiang). Sanmiao Tribes were defeated and they rebelled for many times later. Yao Emperor adopted separate control policy. He exiled some of them to Sanweishan mountain of northwest area and exiled the chief to Chongshan mountain. These stories was recorded in the book, *Shiji*, *Wu Di Ben Ji*. Sanweishan mountain locates to the west of Qilianshan mountain and southeast of Dunhuang. The ancient book, *Shangshu* recorded to prove it is the area in where Sanmiao people was exiled to Sanweishan mountain.

高逸图 (唐)
Gao Yi Tu (618-907)



地毯之源

中国人自古席地而坐。“席”字始见于西周的“𦉳”和“𦉴”字，是用植物纤维或动物皮毛编织而成的铺垫之物。古籍《说文》曰：“席，藉也。”《纲目集览》曰：“身之所依曰藉。”《释名》曰：“席，释也，可卷可释。”《席上腐谈》曰：“上古之时，席、毯、毡、褥只名异而实同。”席有凉席暖席之分，凉席是用竹藤、苇、草编成，暖席则用兽皮、毛、棉、丝等织造而成。汉代人据暖席的不同工艺，将其明确分为“毯”和“毡”，对此古籍中也有论述，《说文》曰：“蹂毛成片故谓之毡。”《物原》曰：“毯，毛席也，上织五色花。”即毡是用羊、牛等毛经湿热、挤压成片状以铺用。毯是用毛、麻、丝、棉等料，经纺纱、染色、编织而成的纺织物。然而，织毯术又是始于何时，源于何地呢？

溯毯之源，必溯丝绸之源，因为丝绸是启中国纺织之先河，亦是毯之始祖也。

丝绸源于中国，始于何时至今未定。传说桑蚕为穗帛始于伏羲，又说丝绸纺织术源自黄帝之妻嫫祖。据《周礼》、《史记》等古籍记载，丝绸纺织术至今已有6000年的历史。

1975~1978年，考古工作者在浙江余姚河姆渡村的新石器时代(公元前4000年)遗址发现一批纺织用的工具

和牙质盅形器，器上雕刻有似蚕蠕动的阴阳纹，并配以编织花纹。

1927年，山西夏县西阴村的仰韶文化(公元前5000~前3000年)遗址曾出土一个半截的蚕茧。

1958年在浙江吴兴钱山漾遗址(公元前2700多年)发现一批丝、麻纺织品。其中有平纹绢片和用蚕丝编结的丝带以及用蚕丝加拈而成的丝线。同时出土的还有石制和陶制的纺轮。

考古证实的年代与古籍记载的年代同时证明，中国的丝绸纺织技术产生于6000年前长江、黄河流域的广阔地区。这一时期，在两河流域聚居着诸多部落。居于长江流域的部落组成九黎部落联盟。九黎联盟在大酋长蚩尤的带领下，进犯中原，与位于黄河流域的黄帝、炎帝部落大战数十次，不分胜负。最后黄、炎组成部落联盟与蚩尤在逐鹿大战(今河北省一带)，九黎大败，四处溃散，其中部分退回到南方的江汉流域，建立了三苗部落联盟。尧时(公元前2333—前2234)，三苗作乱，尧发兵征讨，作战于丹水(今丹江)，三苗大败后不服，又多次作乱。尧采取分割之治，将三苗部分人流放到西北地区的三危山一带，并将其首领流放于崇山。《史记·五帝本纪》载：“三苗在江淮，荆州数为乱……迁三苗于三危，以变西戎”。三危山位于祁连山以西，敦煌东南部，因山峰耸危，故得名。唐代人李吉甫在《元和郡县图志》中写道：“三危山在县南三十里，山有三峰，故曰三危，《尚书》窜三苗与三危，即此山也。”



Sanmiao came to Sanwei mountain with inland agriculture, farming, silk and textile technologies. The long-term life with Xirong nation evolved Xirong's production and life styles. The cultivation and grazing replaced the primitive hunting life. The cold weather of northwest and the change of textile materials promoted them to use the silk textile technology on the fur of animals to make cloth. The thin cloth was used for wearing and the thick cloth was used for mat and quilt to resist the cold air of plateau. The mixture of Sanmiao and Xirong people formed Qiang nation.

The ancient book, *Hou Han Shu* • *Xi Qiang Zhuan* said: "Xiqiang people were different with Qiang people whose surnames were Qiang. Xiqiang people came from Sanmiao tribes dealt in farming and handicraft industry mainly and they had wide life areas mainly distributed in the large areas of Gansu province and Qinghai province. Some of them were distributed in Kunlunshan mountain area in the west. Tibet historical book recorded that there were many Qiang people tribes in Gansu, Qinghai and Tibet provinces about 3500 years ago. Up to now, Zangbei plain is also called Qiangtang plain. The initial word about wool fabric in Chinese ancient books was from *Yi Zhou Shu* • *Wu Hui* and this book recorded that Tang Emperor of Shang Dynasty (1600 B.C.) regulated that the goods could be exchanged with the tribes surrounded. A kind of fur fabric named "Ji" was knitted by Qiang people. In 976 B.C., the King Zhoumuwang drove eight beautiful horses to travel in each country in the west. When he arrived in original area of Yellow River, such as Gansu and Xinjiang, he often communicated with Qiang people and exchanged the goods. Qiang people contributed various wool fabrics knitted by themselves to the King Zhoumuwang. In Nuomuhongtalitaliha site in where Qiang people lived before, a large quantity of wool fabrics and spinning wheels including wool rope, wool cloth and one colorful wool mat relic of the

10th B.C. century were unearthed in 1959. The bar shape pattern can also be seen clearly knitted with wool with yellow, brown, red and blue colors although 3000 years has passed. This is the earliest unearthed wool matting relic in the world up to now.

In Emperor Qin Xian Gong times (384 - 362 B.C.), Qin Dynasty expanded to the origin of Weishui river. Qiang people feared and they migrated to the west several thousand kilometers away. A part of Qiang people migrated to the Tibet area and became a part of forefather of Tibet people later. Another branch of Qiang people moved to the west to reach the edge of Tarim Basin. The migration of Qiang people brought the wool textile technology everywhere.

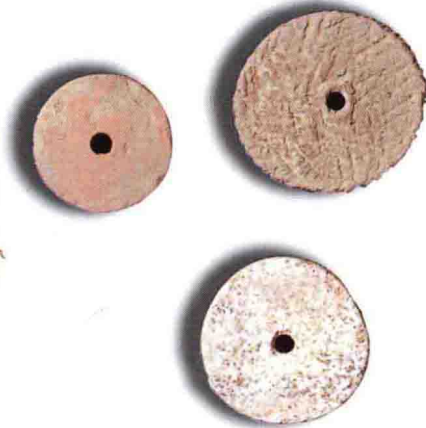
In Qin and Han dynasties, (221-100 B.C.) northwest area was peaceful relatively. Qiang people became strong to reach 150 tribes and the majority of them were distributed in Qinghai and west of Gansu. Fa Qiang and Tang Mao tribes were distributed in Tibet and Ruo Qiang was distributed in the Western Regions located in the south of Tianshan mountain. Cong Bi Qiang, Bai Ma Qiang and Huang Niu Qiang were distributed to the west of Ruo Qiang. Di Qiang was distributed in the headwater of Minjiang river, namely northwest of Sichuan. During this time, the farming and wool textile industry developed very fast in these areas. The improvement of wool textile technology brought many decorative wool fabrics, such as Ke wool, colorful Ji, Maohe, etc. Except these, in Han Dynasty (about 200 B.C.), the people created tufted carpet on the base of wool matting (namely knitted carpet).

At the beginning of the 20th century, British Aurel Stein found tufted wool carpet relic with knots made by the Western Han Dynasty in Han Tomb of Lop Nur of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. He wrote in his book, *the Western Regions Archeology*: "In Loulan Han City site, a pile of colorful wool fabrics were unearthed including colorful thin silk and wool felt,

毛布 (西周)
Felt Cloth (3000 Years ago)



纺轮 (西周)
Spinning Wheel (3000 years ago)



三苗入三危，带去了内地的农耕、畜牧和丝绸纺织技术。三苗与西戎的长期混居生活，进化了西戎的生产、生活方式，耕田种地、放牛牧羊替代了原始的游猎生活。西北寒冷的气候和纺织材料的改变，促使他们借助丝绸纺织技术用牛羊毛来纺纱织布。薄者制衣遮体，厚者作席、作被，以阻挡西北地区寒冷的空气。三苗与西戎融合，组成了羌族的一部分。

《后汉书·西羌传》曰：“西羌之本，出自三苗，姜性之别也……及舜流四凶、徙三危，河关之西南羌地是也。滨于赐支，至乎河首，绵地千里……南接蜀、濮徼外蛮夷，西北鄯善，车师诸国，所居无常，依水草、地少五谷，以产牧为业。”羌人主要以畜牧业和手工业为主，活动的地域很广泛，主要分布在今甘肃省、青海省大部分地区，其中一部分西达昆仑山一带。据藏书记载约3500年前甘、青、藏地区有许多羌人部落活动。时至今日，藏北草原还叫羌塘草原。中国汉字古籍中最早提及毛织物的是《逸周书·五会》，商汤王(前16世纪)讨论和规定周边四方各地贡献和交换物品，大臣伊尹奏陈：“正西昆仑等地，清令以丹青、白旄、纁罽、江历、龙角、神龟为献。其中纁罽乃古代氐人织做的兽毛织物。”《说文》解释：“纁，氐人也。”“罽，西胡毳布也。”《广韵·文韵》载：“氐，氐羌。”即氐是羌族的一支，商周至南北朝分布在陕西、甘肃、四川等地，当时氐羌用“纁罽”作贡品，献给商汤王。公元前976年，周穆王驾八骏马西游各国，到了甘肃、新疆、青海河源一带与羌人部落

来往，并收取贡品，其中有各种毛织物，史传至今的《八骏图》源自周穆王西巡时驾的八匹骏马。也就是在这一地带的诺木洪塔里他里哈遗址，于1959年出土了公元前10世纪大量的毛织物和纺轮，其中有毛绳毛布，还有一块彩色毛席残片，虽历经3000年，但是用黄、褐、红、蓝等色毛编织而成的条形图案仍清晰可见。这是至今出土最早的毛席残片。

秦献公时(公元前384~前362年)，秦朝势力扩张至渭水源头，羌人畏惧，“将其种人附部落而南，出赐支河曲西数千里与众羌绝远，不复交通。”这一支羌人后成为藏族先民的一部分。另一支羌人向西跋涉到塔里木盆地的边缘，成为文献中记载的“婼羌。”羌人的四处迁徙把毛纺织技术传播开来。

秦汉时期(公元前221~前100)，西北较为太平，羌人繁衍壮大至150个部落，大多分布在青海大部、甘肃西部。发羌、唐旄等分部于西藏地区。婼羌于天山之南的西域。葱茈羌、白马羌、黄牛羌于婼羌以西。氐羌于岷江上游，即川西北。这个时期，上述地区的畜牧业、毛纺织业发展很快，毛纺织技术的提高促使很多富有装饰性的毛织物出现，如缣毛、花罽、毛褐等。除此之外到了汉代(约公元前200年)人们在毛席(即编织地毯)的基础上创造出了栽绒地毯。

20世纪初英国人斯坦因(Aurel Stein)在新疆罗布泊的汉墓中，发现了西汉时期的打结栽绒地毯残片，他在其所著的《西域考古记》中这样写道：



毛席(西周)
Wool Matting (3000 years ago)

尼雅遗址 Niya Site



the beautiful ground felt and pile wool ground felt". The pile wool ground felt described here is handicraft tufted carpet with knots. This is the earliest unearthed tufted carpet in the world up to now and it has 2200 years history.

In 1959, Xinjiang archaeological team found a group of tombs of two Han dynasties in Niya site to the north of Minfeng county 150 Km away in Xinjiang. From one of spouse tombs, the colorful tufted carpet relics were unearthed. The bar shape pattern of the carpet is consisted of brown, red, yellow, light yellow and white colors. The pile length is about 20cm. In addition, the unearthed cultural relic includes carpet knitting tool of Han Dynasty, namely "wooden hand", which it is a wooden prong for tamping the wefts when knitted the carpet. This kind of wooden prong is very similar like the iron prong used at present. Except this, some wooden slips for writing were unearthed and some records of carpet trading activities were on it. On the No. 222 wooden slip, "some soils can be cultivated were presented to xxx person and this person used one 10mul thick carpet to repay." was written.

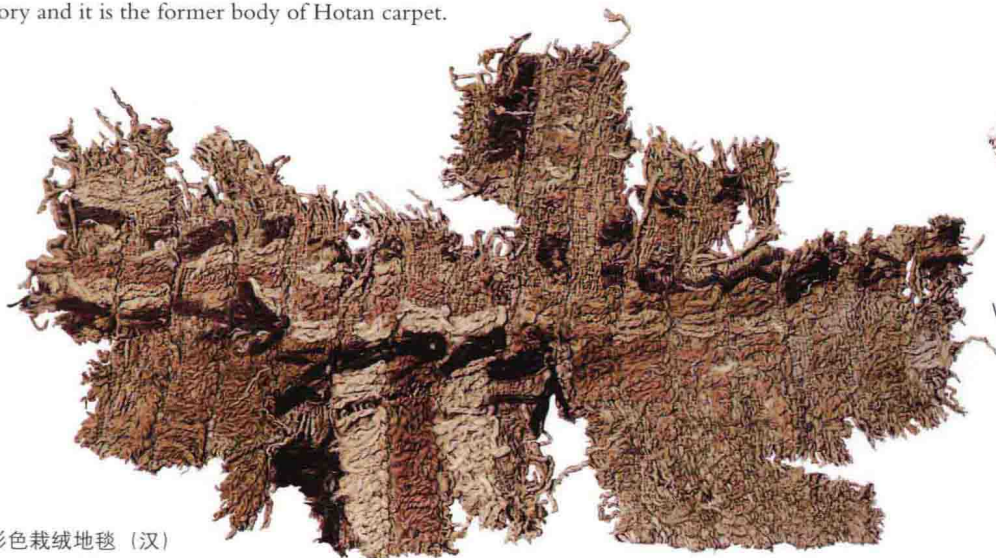
In 1980, archeologist team found four-color carpet relics from No. 2 tomb of the Eastern Han Dynasty in Loulan old city on the western bank of Lop Nur and the other one is eight-color double-surface tufted carpet relic. The way of making tufted fabrics is that one piece of knotted fabric is inserted between two wefts. One frontspiece and one reverse form one group. To tie one warp after an interval of warps with U shape knotting way. The flower veins are appeared on the frontspiece and the reverse is deep blue.

From this we understand that the manufacturing and exchange of the carpet became ripe in green land area of Tarim Basin in two Han dynasties (206 B.C. - 220). We can determine depending on the large quantities of unearthed relics and characters that the green land of Tarim basin one of origins of tufted (wool pile) carpets in China. Yutian, where it is the origin of the Western Regions' tufted carpet, has more than 2000 years history and it is the former body of Hotan carpet.

At the same time, the people lived in the south of the Western Regions and in the southern side of Tanggula mountain was still knitting and using a kind of plain weave wool matting named as "Liu". In Tubo Dynasty (the 7th century), a kind of wool fabric named as Tibet Quilt was produced widely in Xigaze and Langkazi counties. Tibet *Nan Zhao De Hua Stele* recorded that there were fabrics in Tibet area in Tubo Dynasty, such as wool carpet and wool cloth, etc. The wool carpet mentioned is Tibet Quilt which is a kind of fabric with erected wool. The Tibet Quilt is the original shape of Tibet tufted carpet. The rod pulling and knotting way for knitting Tibet carpet was from the craft of Tibet Quilt as special craft of Tibet carpet and it is also being used today. The appearance of Tibet Quilt symbolizes that Tibet tufted carpet was born.

As conclusion, Sanmiao entered into Sanwei 4000 years ago and they brought silk textile technology into northwest area. After Sanmiao mixed with Xirong, they formed Qiang people tribe. Qiang people invented wool fabrics on the bases of silk textile technology including wool matting, namely knitted carpet. The unearthed wool fabrics from Ruomuhongtalitaliha site can prove that Qiang people lived in Qingzang plateau 3000 years ago had grasped wool textile and dyeing technologies and they could make colorful geometry veins wool matting, namely knitted carpet. After several times of migration, Qiang people depending on nomadic life brought the wool textile technology into Qingzang plateau and the Western Regions. Tufted carpet of the Western Regions was born in edge green land of Tarim Basin 2200 years ago. Although Tibet tufted carpet was produced later, it was invented by Tibet people themselves during Tubo Dynasty.

Up to now, we can confirm that the appearance of Chinese carpet is through many kinds of ways. During the long history, tufted carpet of the Western Regions was transferred to the inland through Silk Road to become today's handicraft tufted carpet. Tibet tufted carpet occupies important position among Chinese handicraft carpets with its special craft and style.



彩色栽绒地毯 (汉)
Colorful Tufted Carpet (2100 years ago)



木手 (汉)
Wooden Hand (2100 years ago)

址……发掘出一堆色彩斑斓的毛织品，其中有彩绢及毛毡”、“很美的地毯”、“堆绒地毯”。这里所说的堆绒地毯就是手工打结栽绒地毯。这也是迄今为止出土最早的栽绒地毯实物，距今约有2200年的历史。

1959年，新疆考古队在新疆民丰县北约150公里处的尼雅遗址，发掘出了两汉时期的墓群，在其中的一座夫妻合葬墓中，发掘出了彩色栽绒地毯残片。地毯由棕、红、中黄、浅黄、白等颜色组成彩色条形图案，其栽绒长约20毫米。同时出土的还有汉代织毯工具“木手”，这是一种在织毯中用来砸纬线的木耙子，这种木耙与现在织毯工具，铁耙极为相似。除此之外还出土了一批传卢文的木简，其中，有许多地毯交易活动的记载，在第222号木简中写到：“将能种与希种籽的土地一块赠给××人，此人用10穆立的粗地毯一条作为回礼”。

1980年，考古队在罗布泊西岸楼兰故城的2号东汉墓，出土了4色地毯残片，另一件为8色双面栽绒地毯残片，栽绒方法是每两根地纬嵌结绒一根，一正、一反为一组，用U字形打结法对地经隔行拴扣，正面显示花卉纹，反面为深蓝色地。

由此看来，在两汉时期(公元前206~公元220年)西域塔里木盆地边缘绿州地区。地毯的生产和交流已经成熟。从大量的出土实物和文字记载可以断定，塔里木盆地边缘绿州是中国栽绒地毯的发源地之一。而于阗作为西域栽绒地毯的发源地已有2000多年的历史，是今天和田地毯的前身。

与此同时，位于西南端，居于唐古拉山南麓群山

环抱之中的人们，依然编织和使用着一种叫“溜”的平织毛席。到了吐蕃王朝时期(公元7世纪)，在日喀则、浪卡子县一带，开始盛产一种叫藏被的毛织物，据西藏《南诏德化石碑》记载，吐蕃时期，藏区已有毛毯、毛布等纺织品，这里的毛毯即是藏被，是一种竖毛集束起绒的毛织物。藏被是西藏栽绒地毯的雏形，织造藏毯所采用的拉杆结扣法是由藏被的织作工艺演进而来，成为藏毯所独有的工艺，并延用至今。藏被的产生标志着西藏栽绒地毯的诞生。

综上所述，4000年前三苗入三危，把中原的丝绸纺织技术带到了西北地区，三苗融西戎，组成羌人部落，羌人依据丝绸纺织技术，发明了毛纺织物，其中也包括毛席(即编织地毯)。诺木洪塔里他里哈遗址出土的毛织物足以说明，在距今3000年前，散居于青藏高原的羌人已经掌握了毛纺织和染色技术，可以织出几何图案的彩色毛席(即编织地毯)。逐水草而居的游牧生活和秦初的几次迁徙，使羌人把毛纺织技术传到了青藏高原和西域各地。西域栽绒地毯诞生于2200年前的塔里木盆地南部绿洲。西藏栽绒地毯虽然产生较晚，但它仍然是吐蕃时期的藏族人自己发明的。

至此，可以确定，中国地毯的产生是多源的，在漫长的历史进程中，西域栽绒地毯通过丝绸之路等途径传入内地，发展成为今天的手工栽绒地毯。而西藏栽绒地毯，依然以它独特的工艺和风格，在中国手工地毯中占有重要的位置。

双面彩色栽绒地毯（东汉）
Tufted Carpet with Double Colorful Surfaces
(1900 years ago)



溜 Liu

The Spread of Carpets

1. The spread of Tibet carpets

The carpet is called as "Zhongsi" in Tibet language. Zhongsi was involved from a kind of thick wool matting named "Liu" in the history. "Liu" was produced 3000 years ago and was developed in Tubo dynasty (the 7th century). The development of Liu can be divided into two parts: one was developed to fine and soft fabric named as "Pulu" (Tibet language) and the other one was developed to "Chibujie" and this one was not limited by plain weave style again to form the fabric with erected piles. Because its pile was long and soft, so it was used widely as quilt named as "Tibet Quilt". "Tibet Quilt" was made through pole pulling with knots on the integrated loom. This method determined the basic textile style of Tibet tufted carpet, so the appearance of Tibet Quilt symbolized the birth of Tibet tufted carpet.

At the beginning of the 11th century, the craft of Tibet Quilt was developed in Wangdan area of Tibet (Wangdan area of Bailang County). The tufted carpet with "8" shape knots replaced Tibet Quilt with U shape knots. The density and solidity of its piles was enhanced and it could be knitted into various geometric shape colorful patterns. The people called this beautiful Tibet carpet as Wangdan Zhongsi (it was also called Chunmusai). The outer feature of Wangdan Zhongsi is thick (The thickness is about over 40mm.) and heavy with long wool spikes around.

At the beginning of the 15th century, the religion reform initiated by Zongkeba was popular in Tibet Buddhism and Huang Buddhism established by him required religion unity and strict hierarchy. He required strict regulations for the temple to invigorate Tibet Buddhism. The religious reform was appreciated by Emperor Ming Chengzu and the Dynasty contributed to sup-

port to make Huang Buddhism develop quickly to become the strongest one among Tibet Buddhism. At that time, more temples were built and several ten thousands monks concentrated here. The grand decoration for the temples and various religious activities needed a large quantity of Wangdan Zhongsi, so this situation stimulated the development of Zhongsi industry. Today, we also can see the old Wangdan Zhongsi in Drepung temple, Sela temple and Zhashilunbu temple, etc.

The 5th Dalai Lama, Awangluosangjiacuo was the most achievable among all the Dalai Lama. During this time (1611 - 1682), Tibet began to implement the policy that handcraft industry worker paid tax in kind and dealt in forced labor. Gyangze was famous for producing a kind of Tibet carpet named "Kadian". In the history, some noblemen in Chuxi and Duoxi hired handcraft workers to produce Kadian named with "Duoxi Bisha" and "Chuxi Bisha". In addition, the government organized the handcraft workers together to establish "Industry Association" including hardware, sewing, construction and Kadian industry, etc. The implementation of these systems not only made the handicraftsmen drifting in the village become the professional handcraft workers in the city, but also the association enhanced the management for the industry to make the handcraft workers do accordance with standardization and delicacy. In this time, Tibet carpet became ripe gradually.

In the 13th Dalai Lama time (1878-1933), Tibet carpet industry reached golden age and the producing center of Tibet carpet transferred to Gyangze area from Wangdan area. It is recorded in the ancient book that more than half of the people in Gyangze dealt in carpet producing, so the textile machine could be seen and the sound could be heard in each family at that time. Gyangze local government also opened carpet workshop and they assigned the most excellent carpet handicraftsmen to Lhasa to produce carpet for palace, temple and noblemen families. Suolangduobujiewas one of them. The 13th Dalai Lama, Tudengjiacuo's special bag of holy water bottle and his double

织藏被 Knitting the Tibet Quilt



藏被 (尺不戒)
Tibet Quilt(chi bu jie)